

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 SSO-00

NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 SS-15 ACDA-07 CIAE-00

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-05 OES-07

FEAE-00 DODE-00 OIC-02 ISO-00 /122 W

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1995

INFO USERDA HQ WASHDC

USERDA HQ GERMANTOWN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 4612

USIAEA

DEPT PASS IO/SCT

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, IAEA PARM, SF, FR

SUBJECT JUNE BOARD MEETING: DESIGNATION OF BOARD MEMBERS (SOUTH
AFRICAN ISSUE)

REF: (A) STATE 129282 (NOTAL), (B) 76 IAEA VIENNA 8578 (NOTAL)

(C) 76 IAEA VIENNA 4334 (NOTAL)

1. MISSION TRUSTS THAT IN DEVELOPING LANGUAGE FOR
U.S. REP STATEMENT ON DESIGNATION ISSUE, DEPARTMENT WILL
HAVE IN MIND, INTER ALIA, POINTS MADE BY MISSION IN REF B (PARA 7)
WITH REGARD TO IMPLICATIONS OF REMOVAL OF MEMBER STATE, ON SOLELY
POLITICAL GROUNDS, FROM A BOARD SEAT TO WHICH IT IS ENTITLED BY
TERMS OF THE STATUTE, FOR THE INTEGRITY AND CREDIBILITY OF THE
AGENCY PARTICULARLY IN MATTERS RELATED TO SAFEGUARDS ACTIVITIES.

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2. APART FROM LANGUAGE USED, WE ARE NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR REGARDING
DEPARTMENT'S INTENTIONS AS TO TIMING. PARA ONE REF (A) IMPLIES
THAT U.S. STATEMENT IS TO BE MADE FOLLOWING FORMAL
BOARD ACTION DESIGNATING LIST OF STATES NOT RPT
NOT INCLUDING SOUTH AFRICA. RECALL THAT TRADITIONAL
SCENARION FOR DESIGNATION CALLS FOR CHAIRMAN, SUPPOSEDLY ON
BASIS OF HIS CONSULTATIONS, TO READ OFF LIST OF STATES WHICH

BOARD WISHES TO DESIGNATE. QUESTION REQUIRING CLARIFICATION IS WHETHER DEPARTMENT INTENDS THAT U.S. REP. SHOULD MAKE STATEMENT IN THE EVENT THAT EITHER (A) CHAIRMAN INCLUDES SOUTH AFRICA, AND IS PROMPTLY CHALLENGED BY OTHER AF MEMBERS, OR (B) CHAIRMAN DOES NOT RPT NOT INCLUDE SOUTH AFRICA. IN LATTER AND MORE LIKELY CASE, AS A MINIMUM, U.S. REP. SHOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO QUESTION GROUNDS FOR DESIGNATION OF ANOTHER AF STATE IN VIEW OF OBVIOUS DISPARITY IN NUCLEAR TECHNOLOGY BETWEEN MEMBER HERETOFORE DESIGNATED AND ITS PROPOSED SUCCESSOR.

3. IN REF (C), MISSION SPECULATED ON POSSIBILITY THAT SAG, IF DEPRIVED OF ITS BOARD SEAT, MIGHT WITHDRAW ALTOGETHER FROM PARTICIPTION IN AGENCY. THIS IS OF MORE THAN PASSING CONCERN, FOR IT RAISES ADDITIONAL QUESTION OF ATTITUDE OF SAG TOWARD ITS SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENTS, IN PARTICULAR SAG/IAEA/ FRANCE TRILATERAL WHICH, AFTER ACRIMONIOUS AND WHOLLY IRRELEVANT DEBATE, WAS APPROVED BY BOARD LAST SEPTEMBER. THIS AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO FORCE JANUARY 5, BUT WE WONDER WHETHER, IN VIEW OF WHAT COULD BE DESCRIBED BY SAG AS CAPRICIOUS BOARD ACTION IN DEPRIVING IT OF BOARD SEAT, SAG MIGHT DENOUNCE THE AGREEMENT. MISSION CANNOT FORESEE WHAT POSITION FRANCE MIGHT THEN TAKE WITH RESPECT TO FULFILLMENT OF TERMS OF THE COMMERCIAL CONTRACT TO WHICH THAT TRIALTERAL APPLIES. HOWEVER, IT DOES NOT APPEAR INCONCEIVABLE TO US THAT FRENCH MIGHT CONCLUDE THAT ACTION BY BOARD WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEATH OF SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT AND THAT IT CONSIDERED ITSELF RELEASED FROM ANY OBLIGATION TO HAVE IAEA SAFEGUARDS APPLIED TO KOEBERG
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PROJECT. IN SHORT, DEPENDING ON COURSE SAG CHOOSES TO FOLLOW AFTER LOSS OF BOARD SEAT, WE MAY FACE A PROBLEM WITH SERIOUS COMPLICATIONS FOR LONDON GUIDELINES.

4. WE ALSO SHOULD NOT LOSE SIGHT OF POSSIBLE EFFECT OF FUTURE SAG POLICIES ON US/IAEA/SOUTH AFRICA SAFEGUARDS AGREEMENT COVERING RESEARCH REACTOR AND FUEL. LABOWITZ

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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